

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

TRSE-00 DHA-05 /119 W

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R 210834Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4441

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 OSLO 4291

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNSC, RH, US, UK, XT, PDEV, NO

SUBJECT: RHODESIA AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL -- CONSULTATIONS IN CAPITALS

REF: STATE 223739

1. BRITISH CHARGE ROBSON ACCOMPANIED, BY US DCM, MADE THE DEMARCHE REQUESTED REFTEL TO NORWEGIAN UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS STOLTENBERG SEPTEMBER 20TH.

2. BEFORE GOING INTO THE SUBSTANCE OF CURRENT DEMARCHE, ROBSON NOTED THAT IN THE PREVIOUS DISCUSSION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND ON THE ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND (OSLO 3960) THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAD ASKED IF THE NORWEGIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE FUND WAS ENVISAGED AS BEING THE SAME AS IT HAD BEEN UNDER THE KISSINGER-CROSLAND PROPOSAL. ROBSON STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN AUTHORIZED BY LONDON TO CONFIRM TO THE GON THAT IT WAS HOPED NORWAY WOULD CONTRIBUTE ONE PERCENT OF THE FUND.

3. TURNING TO THE SUBJECT AT HAND, ROBSON STATED THAT AS
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STOLTENBERG WAS AWARE, THE BRITISH WHITE PAPER ENVISAGED TAKING TWO STEPS VIS-A-VIS RHODESIA. THE FIRST WAS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENT OF A RESIDENT COMMISSIONER. AS STOLTENBERG WAS NO DOUBT AWARE, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAD NOTIFIED ITS INTENTION TO NOMINATE FIELD MARSHALL CARVER FOR THIS POST. THE SECOND STEP ENVISAGED BY THE WHITE PAPER WAS THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S APPOINTMENT OF A REPRESENTATIVE TO SERVE AS LIAISON

WITH THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER. ROBSON STATED THAT WE NOW FELT THE TIME HAD COME TO TABLE A SHORT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION PROBABLY AT THE END OF THE WEEK ASKING THE SYG TO APPOINT HIS REPRESENTATIVE.

4. ROBSON CONTINUED THAT IT WAS THE VIEW OF HIS GOVERNMENT THAT THERE WAS A NEED TO KEEP THE PRESSURE ON FOR A SETTLEMENT AND TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF MILITARY NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH NEGOTIATIONS WOULD CREATE A DYNAMIC OF THEIR OWN TO HELP MOVE THE WHITE RHODESIANS TOWARDS AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA. ROBSON STRESSED THAT THIS IS SEEN AS A LIMITED AND PRELIMINARY EXERCISE WHICH DOES NOT INVOLVE PRONOUNCING ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL SET OUT IN THE BRITISH WHITE PAPER. RATHER THE DRAFT RESOLUTION WOULD BE VERY BRIEF AND MERELY CALL ON THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO APPOINT HIS REPRESENTATIVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARA 11 (C) OF THE BRITISH WHITE PAPER.

5. ROBSON THEN DREW ON HIS TALKING POINTS TO DESCRIBE THE ROLE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPRESENTATIVE AND THE NEED WHICH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT SAW IN TREATING THE MATTER WITH SOME URGENCY IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM FOR SETTLEMENT AND BECAUSE DELAY MAY SUIT MR. SMITH. ROBSON ONCE MORE STRESSED THAT THE DRAFT RESOLUTION WOULD NOT DEAL WITH THE TERMS OF THE MANDATE FOR THE UN REPRESENTATIVE IN RHODESIA DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD OR FOR AN UN-ZIMBABWE FORCE. THESE MATTERS WOULD BE LEFT TO A LATER STAGE, HE SAID.
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6. ROBSON ENDED HIS PRESENTATION BY STATING THAT IF THE PRESENT PROPOSALS MAKE PROGRESS AT THE UN AND SMITH REMAINS THE SOLE OBSTACLE IN THE WAY OF SUPPORTING THE DISCUSSIONS ABOUT A CEASE-FIRE, THE BRITISH ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE INTERNATIONAL PRESSURES WHICH COULD BE BROUGHT TO BEAR ON HIM FROM ALL SIDES WOULD BE INESCAPABLE.

7. AT THE END OF ROBSON'S PRESENTATION THE DCM NOTED THAT THE USG WISHED TO ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH THE BRITISH PRESENTATION AND TO STATE THAT OUR OBJECTIVE WAS TO SEEK THE NORWEGIANS' GENERAL SUPPORT FOR OUR APPROACH AT THIS TIME. WE WERE HOPEFUL THAT THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD TAKE OUR POSITION INTO ACCOUNT IN NEW YORK AND ELSEWHERE AND BE PREPARED TO BE HELPFUL.

8. STOLTENBERG SAID THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO DOUBT THAT THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT WILL ACTIVELY SUPPORT THE ON-GOING ANGLO-AMERICAN INITIATIVE. HE STATED THAT THE NORWEGIANS HOPED THEY COULD BE HELPFUL. STOLTENBERG ADDED THAT THE PRESENTATION WAS PARTICULARLY TIMELY AS MUGABE WAS EXPECTED IN OSLO LATER ON SEPTEMBER 20TH. THE NORWEGIANS WOULD BE PREPARED TO BE HELPFUL WITH HIM AND IN NEW YORK AS WELL. STOLTENBERG ASKED

ROBSON IF HE KNEW WHAT THE SOVIET AND CHINESE ATTITUDE TOWARDS
THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION WOULD BE. ROBSON ANSWERED THAT HE
HAD NO INDICATION.

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9. ROBSON WENT ON TO REVIEW THE CURRENT SITUATION BY NOTING
THAT THOUGH THERE HAD BEEN SOME SHARP STATEMENTS ON BOTH SIDES
ABOUT THE ANGLO-AMERICAN INITIATIVE, IT WAS HIS IMPRESSION THAT
THERE HAD BEEN NO OUT-RIGHT REJECTION BY ANY OF THE PARTIES
INVOLVED IN THE DISPUTE. NYERERE HAD BEEN QUITE HELPFUL AND INDEED
HAD NOT YET AS FAR AS HE KNEW RULED OUT THE INCORPORATION OF SOME
RHODESIAN SECURITY FORCES INTO THE ZIMBABWE SECURITY FORCE.
HOWEVER, ONE HAD TO UNDERSTAND THAT A QUESTION OF POWER WAS
INVOLVED AND THE ISSUE OF THE SECURITY FORCES WAS AT THE HEART OF
THAT QUESTION. STOLTENBERG REPLIED THAT THERE WAS, OF COURSE,
ALSO AN INTERNAL POWER STRUGGLE GOING ON AMONG THE NATIONALIST
GROUPS.

10. STOLTENBERG NEXT ASKED IF EITHER THE US OR UK DIPLOMAT HAD
ANY INDICATION WHO THE SECRETARY GENERAL WOULD APPOINT AS HIS
REPRESENTATIVE. BOTH ROBSON AND THE DCM RESPONDED THAT THEY
HAD NO SUCH INDICATION.

11. STOLTENBERG THEN ASKED WHAT THE STATUS OF THE UN CONTINGENCY
FORCES PLANNING WAS. ROBSON REPLIED THAT AS HE HAD MENTIONED
THE RESOLUTION BEING PRESENTED THIS WEEK WOULD NOT
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DEAL WITH THAT ISSUE. STOLTENBERG STATED THAT THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT HAD MADE CLEAR, MOST RECENTLY DURING THE PRIME MINISTER'S MEETINGS WITH NIGERIAN LEADER OBASANJO AND THE NATIONALIST LEADERS IN LAGOS, THAT NORWAY WAS PREPARED NOT ONLY TO SEND TROOPS TO AFRICA BUT ALSO TO PAY FOR THEM. THE UNDERSECRETARY ADDED THAT AS HE HAD STATED TO AMBASSADOR MCHENRY DURING HIS VISIT TO OSLO (OSLO 3774) NORWAY WAS PREPARED AT SOME POINT TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE ROLE WITH THE FRONT LINE STATES AND NATIONALIST GROUPS IF THE BRITISH AND AMERICANS THOUGHT THE NORWEGIANS COULD BE HELPFUL. HOWEVER, THE GON DID NOT WANT TO DO THIS WITHOUT BEING ASKED BY THE AMERICAN AND BRITISH AUTHORITIES AND WITHOUT CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE UK AND RGUK

12. ROBSON AND DCM THANKED STOLTENBERG FOR HIS FORTHCOMING REPLY ON OUR DEMARCHE ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION AND FOR NORWAY'S CONTINUING HELPFUL ATTITUDE ON THE OVERALL ANGLO-AMERICAN APPROACH IN RHODESIA.

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Message Attributes

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